

Outline and explain 2 features of globalisation (10)

One feature of globalisation is the increased use of technology. Globalisation has been accelerated by innovations in technology, particularly the growth of the internet and social media. It is estimated that over half of the world's population has access to the internet and this enables them to access news, information, skills and knowledge that previously had been difficult to access. It also means that ideas and values from one culture in the world can be spread to others quite easily and that these ideas can influence different cultures. Other technological innovations, such as increase in air travel and increased manufacturing in the developing world are seen as a feature of globalisation. However, whilst these both have positive benefits on individuals, such as employment opportunities and increased leisure, they can also be argued to be increasing the risk of transgressive problems such as green crime. Excessive air travel can lead to air pollution, as can overproduction in factories, as well as causing other environmental impacts. It can be argued therefore that the technological changes that have led to increased globalisation may be both beneficial and harmful.

A second feature of globalisation has been increased international co-operation. The process of globalisation can be argued to have occurred due to the fall of the communism in the latest 1980s and early 1990s. This ushered in an era of greater international co-operation as Supra-national Government Agencies began to collaborate with one another to solve some of the most pressing issues in society. This was enabled due to increasingly similar ideologies on how the world should be organised and how key issues such as trade, defence and environmental protections should be implemented. This has led to a period of greater international peace between some of the worlds largest nations and progress towards eliminating some of the most transgressive social and political issues in society. For example, legislation on greenhouse gases to tackle global warming and co-operation between military forces in the war on terror. However, it could be argued that those that do not share the ideologies of the West are seen as potential threats and this has led to increased conflict between nations with conflicting ideologies. This leads to increases insecurity and risk, as highlighted by Ulrich Beck.

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